

Our Reference: RST-007

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#4/A
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10/17/01

Applicant: Ralph S. Shoberg
Serial Number: unknown
Filing Date: April 3, 2001
Examiner/Art Group Unit: unknown
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUDITING A TENSION LOAD IN THE THREADED FASTENER

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Att: Box Non-Fee

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified patent application as indicated below:

Please add the following new claims:

- 1 9 14. A method for auditing a tension load of a fastened threaded
2 fastener comprising:
3 providing a tightened fastener;
4 applying a torque to the threaded fastener;
5 monitoring the torque;
6 measuring a rate of change of the torque per unit of angle of
7 rotation of the threaded fastener;
8 determining a breakaway point;
9 determining the rate of change of the torque per unit of angle
10 rotation after the breakaway point; and
11 comparing a measured rotation angle against a predetermined